

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11

OMB-01 HA-05 HUD-01 /073 W

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R 050524Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6643

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACREPPH SUBIC BAY RP

13THAF CLARK AB RP

DIA WASHDNM

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 09245

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, RP

SUBJECT: MARCOS CITES NEE

TIN GOVERNMENT FOR RETIRED AFP

- GENERALS

1. SUMMARY: MARCOS HAD 22 RETIRED AFP GENERALS TO DINNER JUNE 1 AND TOLD THEM THAT MEN OF SUCH TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE WILL BE NEEDED FOR CIVILIAN JOBS IN GOVERNMENT. THE RETIREMENTS HAVE HAD A POSITIVE IMPACT IN AFP OFFICER RANKS, WHERE CONCERN ABOUT BLOCKED PROMOTION CHANNELS HAS BEEN MAJOR SINGLE SOURCE OF TENSION. END SUMMARY.

2. MARCOS HOSTED DINNER JUNE 1 FOR 22 RECENTLY RETIRED AFP GENERALS. IN AFTER DINNER REMARKS, MARCOS SAID THAT MEN OF SUCH TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE WILL BE NEEDED IN GOVERNMENT, CITING THE POSSIBILITY OF JOBS IN THE PLANNED "PARLIAMENTARY" STRUCTURE AND IN DIPLOMACY. MRS. MARCOS SAID SHE WOULD DRAW FROM THE RETIREES AND FROM THE ACTIVE

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RANKS OF THE AFP IN STAFFING THE NEW DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN ECOLOGY AND SETTLEMENTS, SHE WILL HEAD.

3. TWO OF THE RETIRED GENERAL OFFICERS HAVE ALREADY BEEN APPOINTED TO SIGNIFICANT CIVILIAN JOBS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE -- BGEN RAYMUNDO TERUEL AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR COMPTROLLERSHIP AND BGEN MARIO ESPINA AS

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LOGISTICS.

4. THE "TIMES JOURNAL," THE MANILA DAILY CONTROLLED BY MRS. MARCOS, REPORTED THE FOLLOWING ARE BEING GROOMED FOR HER NEW OFFICE (HUMAN ECOLOGY AND SETTLEMENTS): BGENS FIDEL VENTURA, BERNARDO ESPIRITU, TOMAS DIAZ, MARIANO CASTANEDA, BENJAMIN DIESTRO, GUILLERMO PECACHE, ERNESTO GIDAYA, ANTONIO VENADAS, ANDRES MANIPULA, ANTONIO VILLANEUVA, JESUS DIZON, MATEO EVANGELISTA, ALFREDO MONTOYA, FLORENCIO MAGSINO AND ABRAHAM MANGONON.

5. EMBOFF SPOKE WITH BGEN EVANGELISTA AND BGEN MANIPULA JUNE 3. BOTH HAD BEEN SURPRISED TO LEARN JUNE 1 THEY WERE IN LINE FOR A JOB WITH MRS. MARCOS. NEITHER THOUGHT SUCH A JOB WOULD ACTUALLY MATERIALIZE AND NEITHER SEEMED ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT TAKING IT IF IT DID. BOTH HAVE ALREADY MADE PROMISING CONTACTS IN THE BUSINESS WORLD -- MANIPULA IN BANKING AND EVANGELISTA IN ELECTRONICS. THEY DID, HOWEVER, EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S INTEREST IN THEIR WELL BEING.

6. COMMENT: MARCOS' MOVE TO PROCEED WITH GENERAL OFFICER RETIREMENTS HAS EASED SOMEWHAT THE MAJOR SOURCE OF TENSION IN THE AFP -- BLEAK PROMOTION PROSPECTS. IT IS TRUE THAT MORE THAN TWENTY OVERSTAYING GENERALS REMAIN IN THE RANKS, INCLUDING THE CHIEF OF STAFF AND THE SERVICE CHIEFS, BUT
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MARCOS IS OPENING CHANNELS AND THE COLONELS LIKE IT. FIVE MORE GENERAL OFFICER RETIREMENTS ARE SCHEDULED BEFORE YEAR END. MURPHY

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